



Reference No. 6.37

WAGE RATES INDEXES : FEBRUARY 1975 (PRELIMINARY STATEMENT)

MAIN FEATURES

- * In February the weighted average minimum weekly wage rate for adult males rose by 8 cents and for adult females by 26 cents.
- * The 8 cents increase for males was the lowest monthly increase in the weekly rate since March 1971, and the 26 cents increase for females was the lowest monthly increase since March 1974.
- * The major change in February was an increase of \$6.30 a week awarded to both adult male and adult female clerical workers in Queensland.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This statement contains figures of weighted average minimum weekly and hourly wage rates and index numbers for adult males and adult females for February 1975 and corresponding figures for some earlier months. More information on these statistics will appear later in the monthly bulletin *Wage Rates and Earnings* (Reference No. 6.16) which also contains explanatory notes covering definitions, scope of the statistics, etc.

2. The wage rates used in the compilation of the

indexes are the lowest rates for a full week's work (excluding overtime) prescribed for particular occupations in awards or determinations of Federal or State industrial authorities; in collective agreements registered with these authorities; or in unregistered collective agreements where these are dominant in particular industries. Because the indexes are designed to measure movements in prescribed minimum rates of *wages* as distinct from *salaries*, those awards, etc. which relate solely or mainly to salary earners are excluded. Because of delays in the receipt of notification of changes in wage rates as well as retrospective changes to rates, figures for July 1973 and subsequent months are subject to revision. As such revisions are made they are published in the normal monthly tables of this statement.

3. The indexes are designed to measure trends in wage rates in current awards, etc. excluding the effects of changes in the relative importance of industries, awards and occupations. The weighted average wage rates shown in these tables are therefore indexes expressed in money terms, and do not purport to be actual current averages. Similarly, neither these weighted average wage rates nor the corresponding index numbers measure the relative levels of average current wage rates as between States or industries.

TABLE 1. - WEEKLY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES
ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; weighted average minimum hourly rates payable; and index numbers of wage rates.

End of -	Adult males (b)					Adult females (c)				
	Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates		Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates	
	Wage rates \$	Annual change(d) %	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (e)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (e)	Wage rates \$	Annual change(d) %	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (e)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (e)
1974 -										
February	78.64	14.4	278.5	196.23	277.4	66.69	26.2	335.0	168.10	335.1
March	79.53	15.5	281.6	198.52	280.6	66.90	26.2	336.0	168.63	336.1
April	85.23	23.4	301.8	213.17	301.3	69.95	30.2	351.3	176.32	351.4
May	92.79	26.6	328.5	231.28	326.9	77.00	31.9	386.8	194.10	386.9
June	94.54	27.0	334.8	235.81	333.3	80.43	36.7	404.0	202.76	404.1
July	96.44	28.8	341.5	240.65	340.1	83.24	39.9	418.1	209.83	418.2
August	97.02	28.2	343.5	242.14	342.2	85.98	43.5	431.9	216.74	432.0
September	101.09	33.0	357.9	252.60	357.0	88.04	45.2	442.2	221.92	442.3
October	102.76	34.3	363.9	256.85	363.0	89.52	44.5	449.6	225.65	449.8
November	103.51	34.3	366.5	258.75	365.7	89.96	42.2	451.9	226.76	452.0
December	103.98	33.9	368.2	259.96	367.4	90.99	39.7	457.0	229.35	457.2
1975 -										
January	104.15	32.9	368.8	260.40	368.1	92.05	38.9	462.4	232.04	462.5
February	104.23	32.5	369.1	260.61	368.4	92.31	38.4	463.7	232.68	463.8

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes above. (b) Excludes rural industry. Hourly rates also exclude shipping and stevedoring. The former is not included in the wage rates index and for the latter definite particulars for the computation of hourly wage rates are not available. (c) Excludes rural industry; mining and quarrying; and building and construction. (d) Percentage change over the same month of the previous year. These percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes. (e) Base : Weighted average wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.

TABLE 2. - WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 28 FEBRUARY 1975 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Rates of wage (\$)							Annual change (b) %	Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (c)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia	Australia
Mining and quarrying (d)	130.42	103.64	118.58	103.49	100.01	95.70	119.64	40.0	423.6
Manufacturing -									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	96.41	100.57	109.41	98.24	96.61	101.46	99.06	34.2	350.8
Textiles, clothing and footwear	91.74	92.47	95.60	91.18	95.10	87.29	92.27	26.2	326.7
Food, drink and tobacco	100.32	99.85	101.52	97.57	97.40	100.59	100.10	28.2	354.4
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	103.58	98.88	103.81	99.88	98.32	99.29	101.51	36.7	359.4
Paper, printing, etc.	103.90	111.96	114.15	106.51	107.79	101.90	107.66	28.8	381.2
Other manufacturing	98.88	102.20	105.30	100.52	97.02	97.06	100.46	30.7	355.7
All manufacturing groups	97.94	100.33	105.71	98.77	97.60	99.65	99.64	32.0	352.8
Building and construction	101.94	116.92	110.07	106.47	105.81	105.28	107.92	35.3	382.1
Railway services	99.85	95.85	114.22	100.27	88.77	101.49	101.61	38.7	359.8
Road and air transport	108.36	105.00	103.66	104.57	103.51	107.67	106.15	36.5	375.9
Shipping and stevedoring (e)	118.87	118.10	113.14	111.98	120.25	117.26	116.93	24.4	414.0
Communication	130.39	131.29	130.08	129.27	131.03	127.09	130.43	27.2	461.8
Wholesale and retail trade	105.83	106.58	106.61	103.58	100.77	108.70	105.57	30.8	373.8
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	106.04	104.51	111.38	99.07	100.58	106.27	105.49	27.0	373.5
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	101.05	97.70	98.27	96.46	86.99	93.93	98.13	35.0	347.5
All industry groups (f)	103.40	104.53	109.12	102.25	100.78	103.94	104.23	32.5	369.1

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Percentage change over the same month of the previous year. These percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes. (c) Base : Weighted average weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (d) For mining, rates of wage used are those prescribed for the principal mining centres and include lead bonuses, etc. (e) Includes rates of wage (and value of keep) for occupations in the coastal shipping service, other than masters, officers and engineers. (f) Excludes rural industry.

TABLE 3. - WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT FEMALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 28 FEBRUARY 1975 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Rates of wage (\$)							Annual change (b) %	Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (c)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia	Australia
Manufacturing -									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	93.39	96.09	96.24	91.58	86.39	98.65	94.13	41.9	472.8
Textiles, clothing and footwear	81.94	80.72	81.36	81.66	82.94	77.20	81.26	37.5	408.2
Food, drink and tobacco	94.48	93.32	92.61	89.51	78.11	91.95	92.60	44.5	465.1
Other manufacturing	90.52	90.91	96.25	88.29	88.59	86.78	90.84	38.8	456.3
All manufacturing groups	87.85	86.29	88.69	87.75	83.52	85.54	87.12	39.6	437.6
Transport and communication	97.55	101.80	105.20	103.16	99.00	109.84	100.80	35.0	506.3
Wholesale and retail trade	100.87	101.04	101.19	96.34	95.87	98.69	100.07	41.1	502.7
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	89.78	98.26	98.77	89.19	88.86	94.04	93.53	27.6	469.8
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	94.14	88.96	91.66	88.17	79.33	86.44	90.83	39.9	456.3
All industry groups (d)	92.56	91.45	95.86	91.80	89.36	91.99	92.31	38.4	463.7

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Percentage change over the same month of the previous year. These percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes. (c) Base : Weighted average weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (d) Excludes rural industry; mining and quarrying; and building and construction.

TABLE 4. — WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES, ALL GROUPS (a)(\$)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

End of —	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
							Federal awards, etc.	State awards, etc.	All awards, etc.
ADULT MALES (b)									
1974 —									
February	78.77	78.43	81.81	76.06	76.54	77.26	77.71	79.65	78.64
March	80.13	78.51	83.64	76.27	77.18	77.90	78.62	80.52	79.53
April	86.09	85.70	85.26	83.03	81.84	83.97	87.20	83.10	85.23
May	93.54	92.13	94.99	90.49	89.48	93.53	94.18	91.27	92.79
June	94.72	95.01	96.70	92.16	90.42	94.61	95.94	93.03	94.54
July	96.24	97.55	98.90	93.50	92.33	95.81	97.17	95.64	96.44
August	96.50	98.14	100.31	94.48	92.65	96.25	97.69	96.30	97.02
September	100.53	101.82	105.65	98.91	95.85	99.66	103.19	98.81	101.09
October	102.12	103.39	107.66	100.31	98.41	100.59	103.88	101.54	102.76
November	102.92	104.07	107.91	101.16	99.35	102.61	104.47	102.46	103.51
December	103.27	104.30	108.46	101.95	100.60	103.71	104.70	103.19	103.98
1975 —									
January	103.35	104.53	108.71	102.21	100.75	103.94	104.91	103.32	104.15
February	103.40	104.53	109.12	102.25	100.78	103.94	104.92	103.48	104.23
ADULT FEMALES (c)									
1974 —									
February	68.70	65.03	66.72	64.74	65.31	62.90	63.45	69.50	66.69
March	68.80	65.13	67.61	64.95	65.56	63.39	63.64	69.72	66.90
April	71.75	68.87	69.87	67.74	67.27	65.77	69.14	70.65	69.95
May	81.09	74.38	74.09	72.86	73.69	74.40	75.28	78.49	77.00
June	82.52	80.55	76.96	77.84	75.41	76.32	78.23	82.35	80.43
July	86.22	82.52	80.13	79.27	77.88	78.29	78.83	87.07	83.24
August	88.40	85.41	85.67	81.88	79.30	79.43	83.26	88.34	85.98
September	89.82	87.35	89.02	84.00	83.64	83.50	85.97	89.84	88.04
October	91.32	89.10	89.18	85.62	86.04	84.13	86.19	92.40	89.52
November	91.66	89.43	89.48	86.38	87.25	86.20	86.79	92.70	89.96
December	92.35	89.63	91.59	90.99	87.60	90.58	87.44	94.07	90.99
1975 —									
January	92.56	91.45	93.83	91.62	88.82	91.99	87.79	95.75	92.05
February	92.56	91.45	95.86	91.80	89.36	91.99	87.79	96.22	92.31

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Excludes rural industry. (c) Excludes rural industry; mining and quarrying; and building and construction.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr G. Laurie on 63 9111 extension 2055 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

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